





EDITORIAL

Changing Trends in Patient Care

The profession of Pharmacy has seen a huge turnaround from Compounding and Dispensing to Manufacturing to Research & Development and Community Pharmacy or Patient Care.

In the present day, Pharmacy education for R&D and Manufacturing is different from that of Pharmacy Practice or Community Pharmacy.

World wide the degree of Pharm D is now preferred for Pharmacy practice or Community pharmacy with exception of India and Bangladesh, who still recognises D. Pharm as the minimum qualification for the same. While, for R&D and Manufacturing, B. Pharm, M. Pharm, M.S. Pharm, M. Sc (Pharm) etc. are the courses to go for.

The age old practicing pharmacist / Community pharmacists are health professionals most accessible to the public. They dispense medications in accordance with the prescriptions, or without prescription (OTC). They take care of patient counselling at the time of dispensing the medicines. Hospital pharmacy comprising of indoor and outdoor pharmacy is included here in broader perspective. And thus involves procurement and storage of drugs, pharmaceuticals, devices and other consumables.

The International Pharmaceutical Federation has declared their vision for a community based pharmacist.

- An expert in pharmaceutical care, pharmacotherapy and health promotion.
- ➤ A professional liaison among patients, other healthcare providers and decision makers.
- > Deliver high quality products, services and communication.
- > Document their work & communicate the outcome with professional colleagues.

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